

an additional inducement for people to play fair.

In addition, much of the money—in fact, two-thirds of the money—that has come from this additional revenue has been turned around and put right back out in tax cuts. You did not hear that from the other side, did you? They never mention that fact.

Well, what are the tax cuts that are in this bill? There is \$7.3 billion for conservation, including a tax credit for farmland in the Conservation Reserve Program—a program that affects over 10 million acres across the United States.

There is \$2.5 billion for energy, including a tax credit for small producers of cellulosic fuel and \$800 million for agriculture and rural areas.

Those are the tax reduction elements which are a part of this bill.

The final point I want to make is this Democratic-led Congress has rejected the failed fiscal policies of the last 2 years. We have put in place a strong pay-go rule. It is working by any standard—by any objective standard. While it would not single-handedly solve all of our problems, it is making a meaningful contribution. The fact is, the pay-go scorecard, as of this moment, shows a positive balance. That means the legislation that has been advanced has been paid for. That is a significant departure from what has gone on in the previous 6 years under the control of our colleagues on the other side.

So it is going to be a long, tough slog for us to get done what needs to be done and get America back on track, at least in the fiscal arena. While the Senator from New Hampshire and I have sharp disagreement on these matters, we are working together on a plan to bring together a bipartisan task force—16 Members; 8 Democrats, 8 Republicans—with the responsibility to come up with a plan, a long-term plan to get America back on track. In that, he and I are joined at the hip, and we are prepared to ask our colleagues to come together in a bipartisan way to develop a plan to deal with these long-term imbalances. So while we have sharp disagreement on the question of pay-go and on the question of their fiscal record versus ours, one place we are in complete agreement is on the need to face up to these long-term fiscal imbalances. That is in the interests of our country. That is in the interests of every citizen of America.

I thank the Chair.

I yield the floor, and I note the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, just very briefly if I could, I say to my col-

league, I am just going to take 30 seconds.

THANKS TO STAFF

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I wanted to thank my staff director of the Senate Budget Committee. The other day I thanked all of those who have worked so hard on the farm bill, the members of my staff, including my lead negotiator and my entire negotiating team; six members of my staff. I did not thank at that time my staff director on the Senate Budget Committee, Mary Naylor.

No one has worked harder in this Chamber at the staff level to try to get us back on a fiscal track that makes sense than Mary Naylor. She has been with me many years. She was the person who ran all of my budget operations before I became chairman of the Budget Committee, and when I became chairman, I asked her to be the staff director because there is no one for whom I have higher regard than Mary Naylor, and I wanted to thank her formally and publicly today for her extraordinary commitment to making this country better.

I thank the Chair, and I yield the floor.

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business without a time limit.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

DEMOCRATIC AGENDA

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, Ron Hindle has done a tremendous job of finding any information that I need and putting it in tremendous format so that it is easily understandable, and even writing it up in words that I can understand. He has been with me the entire time that I have been in the Senate. This is my 11th year. He has done a tremendous job. He worked for Senator Simpson before that. So I welcome him to the floor.

Mr. President, in the history of politics, I don't think anyone has ever had their finger on the pulse of the Nation quite like former President Ronald Reagan. Anyone who knew him or heard him speak was instantly warmed by his charm and captivated by his personality. He had a way of expressing himself that enabled him to connect with all of America. He had a unique way of speaking, and that unforgettable Reagan wit let everyone know he was on their side and would do everything he could to make this a better world for us all.

I remember one day in particular. It was 1992, and the Republican Convention was going strong. Ronald Reagan approached the podium to give one of his trademark speeches. As he spoke, something told us that this night, this speech, would be different from all the rest. Something told us that we were watching the last major address he would ever give.

In his message, he spoke of the importance of doing everything we could to point America toward the day when the nations of the world would turn to us and say: America, you are the model of freedom and prosperity. That was when we would turn to them and say: You "ain't" seen nothing yet.

It was a wonderful catch phrase that had been around for so many years, but it expressed his feeling that when that day came, something even bigger and greater would be about to make its presence felt throughout the Nation. Unfortunately, today when we hear those words, we are reminded not of a great President, but of a Congress that continues to lag further and further behind the expectations it created in the last election.

I know I am not the first one to notice. There have been editorials in the papers asking us when we are going to fulfill the promises that were made in the elections last year by the Democratic majority party.

This is also the anniversary of another event. It was about a year ago that what is now the Democratic Party put together a strategy that proved to be successful and they won both Houses of Congress. People were excited and looking forward to the change the Democrats said the election would bring. It seemed that every Member had a press conference during which he or she offered a long laundry list of legislation that was going to be taken up as soon as possible.

With such a celebrated beginning, you may be wondering why you ain't seen nothing yet. Trust me, you aren't the only one. I don't think you will see any celebrating in the leader's office or the Speaker's office about the past year's results. So much of what they fought so hard to attain has been lost over the past year. So much of the progress they promised and that we all hoped to see has somehow failed to materialize. I do need to note an exception. The HELP Committee, the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee that Senator KENNEDY chairs and on which I am the senior Republican, has produced a few bills and virtually all of the bills that have passed. If someone as liberal as Senator KENNEDY and as conservative as I am can move bills, everyone should be able to, but it requires putting aside "gotcha" politics and working for the 80 percent that we can agree on.

Is it any wonder that Congress's approval ratings are at an all-time low?

As the Senate's only accountant, I well remember all of those times I would come to the Senate floor to debate our Nation's budget. The Democratic Party didn't have the numbers back then to control the Senate, so all we heard was a steady stream of complaints from them about the lack of progress that we were making on the budget and the lack of a coherent plan for spending. Now that the shoe is on the other foot and the Democrats are in charge, what have they produced?